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Bangalore Mirror

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Hundreds of saplings planted by BBMP around multiple lakes drying up with no one to water them

SUMMERTIME

Saplings at Gubbalala, Doddakallasandra lakes scorched in rising temperatures

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

To maintain Bengaluru's green cover, and increase the number of trees in the city, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) undertakes plantation drives on a regular basis. Tens of thousands of tree saplings are planted at various places, including the lakes revived by the civic agency.

However, in the rush to meet its plantation target, the civic body, it appears, has forgotten to keep the saplings alive after they were planted during the monsoon last year.

Hundreds of these plants around multiple lakes in the city are drying up with no accountability. One such lake is the Gubbalala Lake near Raghavendra Layout in south Bengaluru. Local residents said over a hundred saplings planted around six months ago have dried up already.

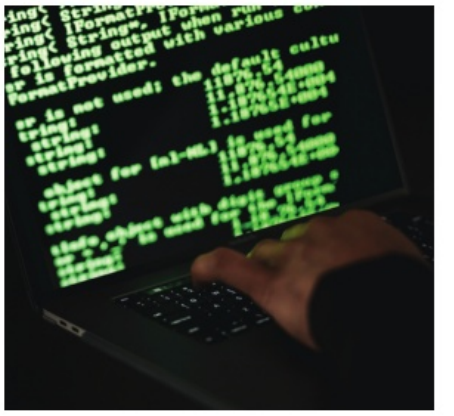
"The forest cell of the BBMP had planted around 600 saplings in August last year around Gubbalala Lake. While the saplings did well in the following four to five months due to frequent rainfall, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **We have been trying to reach out to the BBMP officials concerned for the last five days...**
>
> – Walker at Gubbalala Lake

An offer you must refuse

City witnessing rise in cases of 'education fraud, OTP fraud and job fraud', police say



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If someone approaches you on social media and offers you a job, be aware, it may be a scam. Of late the city has reported several cases where cyber criminals approached citizens with job offers, demanded advance payments and then ghosted them.

This week, the city police arrested a Nigerian man for deceiving people by offering them employment abroad and taking advance payment from them. The accused cheated a woman from Doddagubbi, swindling Rs 37 lakh from her after promising her a job in the United Kingdom.

This isn't an isolated event. Several people in the city are approaching CEN police stations with similar complaints.

Suhana*, a graduate, said she was approached by someone on Instagram who promised her a content writing job if she paid Rs 10,000.

"I was desperately looking for a job last year, but wasn't able to find something. I got a direct message on Instagram — the person texted that if I give them Rs 10k, they would give me a content writing job that pays well. They even sent me the website link and documents that seemed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

2 THINGS TO DO

01 Fest it up!

Catch Gestione, a national level sports management and cultural fest by RNS Institute of Technology. From a fashion show to solo singing and dancing, a group dance and stand-up comedy, this event promises to be a memorable one. Famed musician Raghu Dixit will also perform live. Participate with your gang to make the evening super fun. There will also be various sports competitions.
Where: RNS Institute of Technology
When: Mar 3 and 4
Contact: 9611038055

02 Organic talk

Bangalore Creative Circus has curated an exciting group of farmers and producers that will be selling fresh fruits, veggies, mushrooms, and also homemade bread, jams, dips, ferments, and more! The market is an initiative to connect us to our source of food, while promoting those that grow food with utmost care for our health as well as the planet. Additionally, there will be a film screening by the climate club and a discussion afterwards.
Where: Bangalore Creative Circus, Yeswanthpur Industrial Suburb
When: March 5, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Entry: Free, 9611854141

Nandhini masala products launched

The Nandhini group of hotels launched Nandhini Masala products on Sunday. Nandhini hotel was founded by Narasimhaiah Anand and now the third generation family members Dhanush Anand, Sushmitha Patil and their friends Bharath Patil, Anjaneya Dhothra, Vishal Nirani, and Prabhu have invested in the new products.

The following products were launched in the market: Mangaluru Ghee Masala paste, Chettinad Chukka paste, Nellore Biryani paste, Donne Biryani paste, makhani paste and Tandoori tikka paste.

PIC COURTESY: LOUIS VAN BAAR

DEADLY BEATS

A household name in electronic music, Martin Garrix will begin his multi-city tour in the country and the 26-year-old genius is raring to go

The Dutch DJ will perform in Bengaluru today and tomorrow as part of his multi-city India tour

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At just 20 he was ranked as the number 1 DJ in the world by DJ mag, and carried this title with him for the next two years. Today, at 26, Martijn Gerard Garritsen, better known as Martin Garrix, is one of the most recognised DJ and music producers on this planet. If there is any opportunity to play for extra-terrestrials he might as well be the first choice considering he believes that UFOs exist. One of his goals is to score for a movie, Hans Zimmer being one of his favourites. Ahead of his Indian tour which kicks off in Bengaluru this week, the musician speak on AI, mental health, and his journey so far.

Is it true that you had to convince your parents about pursuing a career in music?

My parents have always been super supportive, but of course they weren't very excited when I told them I wanted to quit school to pursue a career in music. But they stood by my decision to pursue my dreams which I always will be grateful for. I couldn't have done this without them.

What kind of influence did your mother (Karin) who knows how to play the piano have on you?

It did obviously contribute to me getting into music. I started playing the guitar when I was 8, even before experimenting with electronic music.

People are experimenting with artificial intelligence to write songs. Your thoughts on this?

I think it will definitely go beyond this but I do believe that human creation and creativity can't be fully replaced by computers.

What are the top skills that you would encourage upcoming DJs/music producers to learn?

The most important thing is to find your own unique sound, always stay hungry to improve yourself and go out there and let as many people as possible

> **The most important thing is to find your own unique sound, always stay hungry to improve yourself**
> –Martin Garrix

listen to your music. I used to do this back in the days as well. And very important: Always be nice to everyone you meet along the way.

The importance of mental health has fortunately been spoken about widely in recent times. As a busy professional what is your self-care routine?

This coming year we're keeping an eye on my schedule to make sure I won't have too many shows. For me it really helps when I make sure I get enough sleep, eat healthy and work out frequently.
Also, I love spending time with my family and friends whenever I can and doing sports like kitesurfing or snowboarding; it clears my mind.

What is the one area you'd want to make a considerable impact in 2023?

I've been working on a very exciting new project the past two months that includes creating music for a new series.
It has been a completely new experience for me and I'm super excited.

Is there a pre-and post-concert ritual you follow?

I don't have a specific ritual. I do always like to slow down a bit before the show to get into the right mindset and focus.

You travel a lot. Do you have any packing hacks?

I'm the worst packer. I just throw everything in my suitcase and hope for the best.

Garrix will perform in the city today and tomorrow.

Two extra days to chill for VTU students

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The Visvesvaraya Technological University has decided to give students two Saturdays off every month, to help them boost their productivity.

Starting from March 2023, all affiliated and autonomous engineering colleges under Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) as well as the school of architecture will have a holiday on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Meanwhile, the remaining Saturdays will be full working days.

The same is applicable to VTU head offices, extension centres, skill development centres and PG centres across the state.

The decision has been approved by the Vice-Chancellor of the university and an executive council meeting on the basis of requests received from affiliated colleges and faculty members.

Vice Chancellor of VTU, Dr Vidyashankar. S, told Bangalore Mirror that this initiative will also decrease the movement of vehicles on Saturdays.

"On the second and fourth Saturdays, since it being a government holiday, the traffic is comparatively lower during office hours and teachers and students find it easier to commute to the college. For example, there are four lakh students in VTU and even if 50 per cent of the students take personal vehicles at least less two lakh vehicles will be on the road," he explained.

The Vice-Chancellor informed that several other universities are taking similar measures. Earlier, VTU had half-day classes on Saturdays which could be extended by the faculty if needed for any reason.

"It gives more time to the faculty members to get their personal work done. Many a time, an entire day gets used for half day in travelling or otherwise. Some students travel up to two hours for three hours of classes on half days. Now, two Saturdays will be full working while two will be holidays. Considering several factors and demands from the stakeholders we have come to this decision," Vidyashankar informed.

Yet another stray killed, but the apathy remains

Case registered against man who run over dog with car; animal activists say that punitive measures are simply not enough

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Animal activists want stringent action against the person responsible for the death of a stray dog recently killed in Banaswadi.

A case has been registered at Banaswadi Police Station against Ramanathan V under the Section of 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960 and under the Sections of 429 and 279 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1960. The complaint was lodged by Biswajit Kumar, a member of Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

The residents of Annaiah Reddy Layout near Dodda Banaswadi have also demanded the police to act tough against the accused who caused serious injuries to the stray dog by driving his car recklessly. "I have been feeding five to six dogs on this street. The dogs are harmless and there have been no complaints against them all these years. The dog was severely injured when the accused hit it. He did not have the courtesy to look after the injured dog," said Naveena, a resident.

Rajeshwari P, a homemaker, said the dogs were friendly and there were no problems faced by the residents. "I feel sad that the dog died due to the injuries after two days," said Rajeshwari.

According to the FIR registered by Banaswadi police, the accused ran his car on the dog at 3.30 pm on February 16. The FIR stated that one Sachitha took the heavily injured dog to Care Animal Centre at Yelahanka for treatment. However, the dog succumbed to injuries on February 28.

Emphasising the need to sensitise people on how to treat stray dogs, Arun Prasad, an animal activist, said that no one has the right to kill stray dogs. "The Road Transport Officers and police, while issuing driving licence, should create awareness on how to avoid injuring or killing stray dogs while driving on the streets. The stray dogs, like humans, have the right to wander on the streets. Stray dogs should be treated on par with human beings," said Arun Prasad.

Meanwhile, advocate Deepthy MG said that such cruelty is on a rise as the present Prevention to Cruelty Act 1960 is weak, and most of these policemen are just not aware of this Act. "The SPCA in the state are just spineless and the officer In SPCA are still not aware of their position and duties," Deepthy said.

CJ Memorial Trust founder Priya Chetty-Rajagopal said that in the last two days alone, she has heard of five such incidents and these repeated hit-and-run crimes -- many intentional -- to gentle, neutered, vaccinated, friendly community dogs was heart-breaking.

"It took us 20 days to get High Grounds police to file an FIR when a car ran over sleeping Sir Montagu Mustafa on February 2. We held him close enough to the hospital, screaming in agony, where he passed away two hours later. There are so many such cases," said Priya Chetty-Rajagopal

> **Residents of Annaiah Layout want cops to take strict action against the accused who did not even stop after hitting the stray**

She said that police must step up and support when animal activists file FIRs and they should follow & disseminate the PCAA police training manual across SHOs, that's been specially made by AWBI for police. "No wonder the animal cruelty rates are so low and seem disproportionately skewed - the cops often won't file a case in the first place," she said.

She said that police must take stringent action including seizing vehicles, suspending the licence, doubling the insurance premium, etc. "Without that, penalties are a slap on the wrist," she said.

Many stray dogs in Bengaluru die in hit-and-run cases and the accused get away easily

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Sankey flyover plan on hold

The BBMP commissioner Tushar Giri Nath withdrew the Sankey flyover project file from the forest cell of the civic body on Wednesday after facing pressure from the Sankey residents' group. Palike had handed over the Detailed Project Report (DPR) to Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority almost a month ago.

The Sankey flyover project has come under fire from citizen groups and mobility experts alike, as it will only increase traffic congestion in the area, and destroy the ecology of the area, particularly Sankey Tank Lake.

The recently notified BMLTA was entrusted with the task to scrutinise the controversial project.

However, residents claim the project file was still being moved to the forest cell for clearance.

"We were worried that since the file has reached the DCF for clearance, they might give the permission and tree felling would start," said a member of the citizen group. The group included residents from Malleshwaram, Vyalikaval, and Sadashivnagar area including Sadashivnagar Residents Welfare Association, Malleshwaram Residents Welfare Association, Malleshwaram Social, Malleshwaram Swabhiman Initiative and Citizens for Sankey.

Citizen met the commissioner to submit a letter requesting BBMP to withdraw the Sankey Flyover File from the DCF office, which grants the authority to cut trees. The netizens also requested the commissioner to cancel the tender for the project. "He has assured the residents today that the entire project would be placed on hold, including tree assessment by the DCF, until a directive was given by BMLTA. Regarding the tender, he informed me that he would let the tender sit until given a clear directive by BMLTA," said a member of one of the citizens' group.

> **We will not stop until this flyover and road widening is scrapped entirely**
> –Kimsuka, a member of Citizens for Sankey.

Locals also submitted the detailed Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report of the Sankey flyover project conducted by Vruksha Foundation and Azim Premji University to the BBMP commissioner. "The BBMP official has assured that a public consultation will be held in case the number of trees to be cut for the project turns out to be above 50. We will not stop until this flyover and road widening is scrapped in its entirety, and the Sankey tank lake is safe," said Kimsuka, a member of Citizens for Sankey. **BMB**

It'll be raining books in B'luru

BBMP to increase number of mobile libraries to improve reading habits

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At a time when people's interest in reading books is waning, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to increase the number of mobile libraries in the city. The mobile libraries will tour various places in Bengaluru and citizens can borrow books of their choice. During a recent meeting, BBMP administrator Rakesh Singh said that there was a need to improve the reading habits of Bengalureans. The tech savvy generation has largely been shunning physical books for electronic devices.

During earlier times, libraries were one of the most happening places in the city and were flocked by people who wanted to read. However, with the number of readers dwindling, the BBMP is planning to take up various measures to preserve 'bookworm culture'.

To make this happen, the Palike will first need to buy vehicles so that they can be turned into mobile libraries and operate across all zones in the city. An official said, "It may be difficult to build physical libraries in all zones. As libraries may not be close to people's residences, many don't visit them. We think that the concept of mobile libraries will be a big hit among city dwellers. We already have some vehicles with books that visit designated spots on designated days and we are seeing a good response from people. Hence, it has been decided to increase the number of such libraries."

With people increasingly shunning books to pick up gadgets, BBMP wants to preserve reading habits

> **"As libraries may not be close to people's residences, many don't visit them. We think that the concept of mobile libraries will be a big hit among city dwellers** – BBMP official

Incentive for students

New measures are also being taken up to encourage students taking up coaching for civil services or other competitive exams. During a meeting, Singh said that a new auditorium (Dr Vishnuvardhan Auditorium) has been built in the western zone and is turning out to be a hub for civil service aspirants. The agency has decided to invite two experts in the fields twice a week to give motivational talks to the candidates.

To inculcate reading habits among children, the agency has decided to introduce the Makers Space Programme in all zones.

Budget talk

Meanwhile, the BBMP budget for the year 2023-24 will be presented at the Sir Puttannachetty Town Hall on Thursday. A majority of the suggestions for the budget included fixing of streetlights, footpaths, segregation of waste, and road development.

Strike called off after 'interim relief'

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The state government saw temporary relief on Wednesday as the Karnataka State Government Employees' Association decided to withdraw their strike and report to work immediately. However, patients at various hospitals reportedly suffered on Wednesday morning before the strike was called off.

Many people had been waiting at the OPD in KC General hospital for a long time since morning. "I have come from Basaveshwara Nagar and have been waiting for more than an hour without any clue about whether the doctors will turn up or not. I had to apply for leave to come to the hospital today," said a woman.

A middle-aged person was seen walking with a newborn, in search of doctors. "My daughter is a 12-day-old baby and has eye problems. I have been visiting numerous wards but have been unable to find any doctor."

In some places, students were also inconvenienced as the 10th preparatory exams were called off. Reacting to this, a senior government official said that directions were issued to keep schools open and teachers who did not turn up for work would be marked absent. Teachers were reportedly asked to conduct preparatory examinations according to the schedule.

Patients were affected on Wednesday as KC General hospital staff went on strike

Since Tuesday night, there have been hectic parleys between Chief Minister Basavarj Bommai and the association representatives. Another round of discussions was held on Wednesday morning, which bore fruit as the employee association decided to withdraw the strike.

Bommai announced a 17 per cent salary hike for government employees as interim relief. He said, "An order has been issued. A committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) will be constituted to study the New Pension Scheme in other states, the financial implications, and other issues, and then submit a detailed report." The employees had demanded interim relief of 40 per cent increase in basic salary and revision of salaries in accordance with the 7th Pay Commission.

Association President CS Shadakshari said that they had agreed to the interim relief, which will be applicable from April 1, 2023. "We have accepted this for now, but will wait for the government to go ahead with the implementation. If they fail to do so, then we have to resort to protest again. The increase in salary may add an additional financial burden of Rs 900 crore."

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) and Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) buses were seen plying on the roads as usual in the morning. The police department has also taken steps to make sure no law and order situation is triggered due to the strike.

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Pending pavement

Kasavanahalli

Work on this footpath in Kasavanahalli has not been completed since the last six months.

Smoky affair

Gollahalli Road

Garbage being burnt daily in Gollahalli Road, Electronic City Phase 1, is leading to a lot of smoke in the area.

Damage done

Shirke

This recently-dug up road in Kengeri, Shirke has been damaged and dry waste is not being collected.

Big relief for flat owners

Associations of flat owners in Karnataka now to be registered as cooperative society or company, says Law Department

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Here is good news for the prospective or existing flat owners in Karnataka. In a recent reply to a right to information (RTI) query, the Under Secretary of the Legal Department said that the apartment owners associations have to be registered under Karnataka Cooperative Societies Act or Company Act. All these years, the builders registered the apartment owners associations at Sub-Registrar Offices, which deprived the apartment owners' right on land on which the residential apartment complexes were built.

Karnataka Law Department Under Secretary M Mahesh Babu, in a reply to a RTI query from Dhananjaya of VS Cozy Apartment, JP Nagar, has stated that promoter, as per Karnataka Ownership Flats (Regulation of the promotion of construction, sale, management and transfer) Act, 1972, has to take steps for formation of cooperative society or company as soon as a minimum number of persons required to form a cooperative society or a company have taken flats.

The promoter shall within the prescribed period submit an application to the Registrar for the registration of the organisation of persons who take the flats as a cooperative society, or as the case may be, as a company; and the promoter shall join, in respect of the flats which have not been taken, in such application for membership of a cooperative society or as the case may be, of a company.

"The associations of flat owners have to be registered as a cooperative society or a company till the Karnataka High Court delivers the final judgment on a pending writ petition," said Babu in the reply to the RTI application.

According to Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar, sanchalak of Karnataka Home Buyers Forum, the state government giving clarifications to flat owners on Apartment Owners Association formation is a welcome move.

He added that it had submitted memorandums to the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary, Registrar of Co-Operative Society, IGR, RERA, and also to the Prime Minister of India to give clarity and directions to flat owners' association formation.

Later, the matter was discussed last year in Vidhana Soudha and the Minister for Cooperation had referred it to Town Planning and to the Legal Department for clarifications.

"Now, the legal department of Karnataka clarified that Apartment Owners Association to be formed under Karnataka Co-Operative Societies Act 1959 or Company Act in compliance with Karnataka Ownership Flats Act (KOFA) 1972, Section 10," said Padmanabhachar.

By forming a cooperative society of apartment owners, the society becomes a corporate body which can convey the title of common areas as per section 17 of RERA 2016 and also gets legal incorporation status to sign the contracts with service providers. There are many advantages of having a body corporate society representing the association of owners, he informed.

> **This will help many flat owners to take the right direction towards formation of association**
>
> –Sameera Bharadwaj from Prestige Lake Ridge Apartment

Meanwhile, the owners of apartments in Bengaluru have welcomed the direction given by the Legal Department.

"Home buyers of Karnataka are harassed and have been waiting for a clear directive from the government in this regard," said Naval Veteran Commander Surendra (retired).

"This will surely help many owners to confidently take the right direction towards formation of the apartment owners association either in Karnataka Co-operative Societies Act 1959 or Companies Act 1956," said Sameera Bharadwaj from Prestige Lake Ridge Apartment.

Like a diamond in the sky

Venus, Jupiter appulse to dazzle at night, several celestial events lined up this year

It is a treat for sky gazers to watch Venus and Jupiter appulse on Thursday in case they missed it on Wednesday night. According to Anand MY, a scientist at Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Bengalureans can watch western sky for this celestial event.

"One can watch the rarest of the rare Venus- Jupiter appulse (least distance) after sunset as the two planets will dazzle the skies from 6:45 pm to 8 pm in the low western sky right above the sunset point. Between these times the two brightest planets will be at their closest approach or in conjunction passing less than half a degree of each other in the constellation Pisces and will be visible," he said.

Though these planets can be spotted in the coming days, the distance between them will continue to increase, he added.

Luckily, as the Bengaluru skies are clear, one can have better chances of watching this. An appulse is when two or more astronomical objects, usually the planets or the moon, appear close

to one another in the sky. One can have stunning sight through a telescope. So if you miss this opportunity now, then you have to wait till 2036 to watch this rare celestial event again.

Scientists say that if you are a star gazer, then there are many important events lined up this year as the next big event would be on May 5 when one can expect a very faint eclipse in which the moon gets covered with a slightly greyish weaker shadow of earth. This will be followed by June 2 when Mars will glide in front of the famous Beehive, which is a star cluster of about a thousand young stars positioned about 600 light- years away and marking the heart of Cancer, the crab. For those with binoculars and telescopes, this will offer a stunning view of the red planet being enveloped with stars on all sides.

Further, there will be two supermoons this year. The first one is on July 3, which is known as the Buck, Thunder or Hay moon. This moon will be near its closest approach to the earth and may look slightly larger and brighter than usual, and the second supermoon can be seen on August 1 known as the Sturgeon, Green Corn moon or the Grain moon.

This is also the second of four supermoons for 2023. The third supermoon on August 31 is the rarest because it is the only blue moon or second full moon of the same month and also the biggest supermoon of 2023, which is a rare occurrence. The fourth supermoon known as the Corn or Harvest moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the September equinox on September 29.

Besides this, one can see Saturn at its closest approach to earth on August 27. it will be looking its brightest. **BMB**

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Traffic troubles throw off plans

Congestion on Sarjapur-Varthur Road affects commuters, board exam candidates

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BWSSB work on Varthur main road threw traffic out of gear on Tuesday, troubling many commuters

Commuters using Sarjapur-Varthur Road were stuck in traffic for long hours on Wednesday. Among the people stuck, some were even school students who had their board examinations.

The frustrated citizens said that they had been stuck for hours due to the congestion. Ananya K, one of the commuters, told Bangalore Mirror, "It was a massive jam and none of the cars were moving even a bit. There were too many vehicles. I had an important conference scheduled, which is why I was supposed to reach the office early. However, I was stuck in the jam for hours and could not make it to work on time."

Some commuters were anxious about their children being caught up in the chaos. Aravind Suresh, a commuter, said, "My daughter had school today, but she was stuck in the congestion for a very long time. She felt nauseous because she was sitting inside the car for an extended period of time. There was no space for her to go out and get some fresh air. She got quite sick, which is why she had to come back home and miss her classes."

Some of the students who were stuck also had their board examinations, which caused them a lot of anxiety.

A student who wanted to remain anonymous said, "I had my board exams today and already had a lot of tension because of that. In addition to that, there was this traffic jam in the middle of the day. The whole situation gave me a lot of anxiety. I was somehow able to reach my school at the last moment. However, I did not get time to look into my notes for one last time because the exam was about to start when I reached."

Residents of the area said that traffic issues were quite common on this stretch.

> **"It was a massive jam; none of the cars were moving. I had an important conference today, which is why I was supposed to reach the office early**
>
> – Ananya K, commuter

Mohan Kumar, another commuter, told BM that traffic congestion has been the norm in this area for a very long time. He added that there aren't enough traffic officials present here to manage the situation either.

The increasing use of private vehicles has also been attributed to more frequent traffic jams. Rishab Rai, also a commuter, said, "It is important for people to reduce the usage of private vehicles and take more buses so that traffic congestion can be reduced. Most of the cars in the jam were private vehicles. They were the main reason behind the situation."

Who'll water the plants?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scorching heat of February resulted in wilting of over 25% of these plants. This is because the plants have not been watered at all," said Gautam Kamath, a resident of the area.

Similarly, many saplings planted around Doddakallasandra Lake have also dried up due to the lack of maintenance.

"The plantation drive was conducted by the BBMP's forest department in August last year. Around 300 tree saplings were planted around the lake. However, nearly 15% of them have dried up; the rest will soon dry up if not watered. We clicked the picture of drying plants and tagged the BBMP on social media. However, no action has been taken so far," said a citizen living in the vicinity of Doddakallasandra Lake.

Walkers at Gubbalala Lake complained that while last month was very hot with no rain spells, the plants were not watered; perhaps not even once. Local residents tried to reach out to authorities concerned, but in vain. The lake was revived by the BBMP in 2020-21 spending Rs 3.5 crore.

"We have been trying to reach out to the BBMP officials concerned for the last five days. We also volunteered and arranged for five water tankers; however, no one turned up to water the plants. The walkers' group of Gubbalala Lake has been trying its best to ensure that the saplings survive," lamented a regular walker at the lake.

According to netizens and lake activists, lack of coordination among various departments is the reason behind these 'failed attempts' at plantation drives.

"BBMP's forest cell has a target to achieve when it comes to planting of saplings. While the period to settle the bill of contractors has been extended to three years, subject to the survival rate, no visible monitoring mechanism is in place. These are live tree saplings that are being starved to death. BBMP has no moral stand towards ecology," said lake activist Raghavendra B Pachhapur.

Rehab on wheels puts citizens at ease

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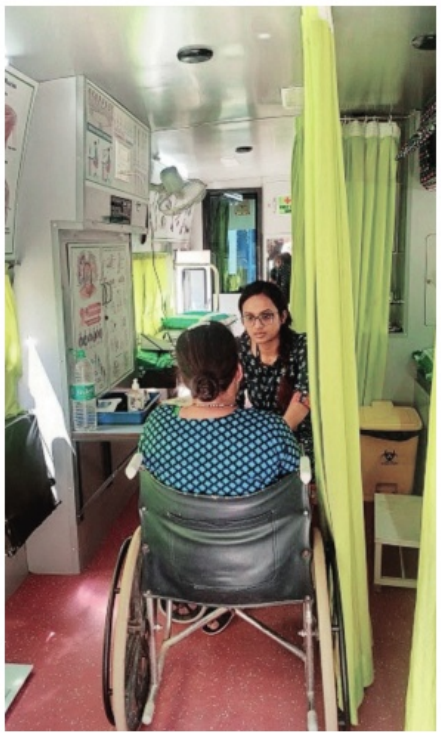
Rehab on Wheels (RoW), a doorstep rehabilitation support service that started in November 2022, has been able to provide accessible and affordable care to over 710 patients with 2084 services so far. The mobile unit service is a first-of-its-kind rehabilitation project for people with disabilities (PwD), jointly started by the Association of People with Disability (APD) and ABB in India.

It aims to reach 3,000 disabled people over the next year. RoW's services, which are free-of-cost, include physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, counselling, aids and appliance measurement, fitment and user training, social security, referral to livelihood opportunities, schooling, and medical/surgical intervention by a team of experts.

45-year-old Babu, a stroke survivor and an artist by profession, gets access to the mobile rehab service at Nams Snehasadan, a charitable community service centre in MS Palya. "I have been able to work on my painting strokes gradually as the strength in my hands is improving. Since I have rehabilitation at my doorstep now, I don't worry about going anywhere to avail this service," he said.



Dr NS Senthil Kumar, CEO, APD, said "The idea of RoW emerged during the pandemic, when people with disabilities and senior citizens were severely affected due to mobility issues. At the time, commuting and costs made rehabilitation inaccessible and unaffordable. The project, therefore, aims to strengthen the support system for PwDs by building an inclusive and sustainable ecosystem for their growth and development."

This is done through capacity-building, training, and sensitising government frontline workers and other stakeholders like parents and caregivers. common people are also made more aware of the cause.

"We are grateful to ABB in India for this project and for actively participating from the ideation to the execution phase," added Kumar.

Extradition of economic offenders:

India urges G-20 nations to act

During first Anti-Corruption working group meeting, MoS points to problems when offenders flee from jurisdiction of country

#NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday called upon the G-20 nations to adopt multilateral action for faster extradition of fugitive economic offenders and recovery of assets both on the domestic front as well as from abroad during the first Anti-Corruption working group meeting of G20 nations.

Chairing the meeting with Co-Chair Italy, Union Minister of State, Personnel, Public Grievances, Jitendra Singh said: "Economic offences have been a problem faced by many, especially when the offenders flee from the jurisdiction of the country. India has put in place specialised legislation in this regard, in the form of Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018, the term wherein 'fugitive economic offender' (FEO) is defined as an individual against whom a warrant of arrest in relation to a Scheduled Offence has been issued by any court in India and who has left the country so as to avoid criminal prosecution; or the FEO abroad, refuses to return to face criminal prosecution."

NATION

The Minister also said the Enforcement Directorate has transferred assets worth about $180 billion to public sector banks that suffered losses to the tune of around $272 billion due to frauds committed by high-net-worth individuals.

The Minister informed the G-20 delegates that India's view is that strengthening of mechanisms for speedy confiscation of the proceeds of crime, both at home and abroad, will force the offenders to return to their home country.

He added that this will allow for an effective investigation and speedy trial for the related offence and this would also help the banks and other financial institutions and tax authorities to achieve recovery from defaults committed by such FEOs, thus restoring, to some extent, the overall health of these banks and other financial institutions, while eliminating the possibility of further misuse of these funds.

A man walks past a model of G20 logo outside the finance ministry in New Delhi

Singh said that corruption is a complex social, political, and economic challenge affecting all countries and in a globalised world, corruption has ramifications well beyond the G20.

He said it adversely impacts the effective use of resources, creates market distortions, adversely impacts the quality of life of citizens, impacting the benefits of globalisation and consequently, economic growth and governance and most disproportionately affecting the poor and most marginalised. Singh said as the primary forum for global economic cooperation, the G20 has to take responsibility to lead global efforts towards battling the menace of corruption. Since its inception in 2010, the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) has been at the forefront of addressing all forms of corruption, the Minister added. **–IANS**

Bill Gates all praise for India

India's sprawling digital public infrastructure received a glowing endorsement from billionaire Bill Gates on Wednesday as he praised the country's "great" digital network, reliable and low-cost connectivity, and said this will be the cheapest 5G market. Under the G20 presidency of India, a session on 'Building resilient and inclusive economies- the Promise of Digital Public Infrastructure' was held on Wednesday in New Delhi, where the Microsoft co-founder spoke of India's digital identity Aadhaar, its payment infrastructure, and strides that the country has taken in bringing more people into formal banking system. "India in particular, by laying the groundwork for digital public infrastucture starting with identity system, allows people to build on top of that. And to make financial access and financial payment an element of that in a trusted way allows for an incredible variety of applications. We are just at the beginning of this. We are seeing incredible ingenuity about using this, and it is in many different sectors," Gates said. **PTI**

CET-2023 for 3 days from May 20

The Common Entrance Test-2023 for professional courses and Kannada language will take place on May 20, 21 and 22, the Karnataka Examination Authority said on Wednesday.

"The KEA is conducting the CET-2023 on May 20 and 21 for admission to Professional Courses and Kannada Language Examination on May 22. Registration and filling of application online will commence from 11 AM on March 2. The last date to fill the application online is April 5 and the last date to pay the application fee is April 7," the KEA said in a statement.

The exam for Biology paper will take place on May 20 at 10.30 AM and Mathematics at 2.30 PM. Physics paper on May 21 at 10.30 AM and Chemistry at 2.30 PM.

The Kannada language test for Horanadu and Gadinadu Kannadiga candidates will be held on May 22 at 11.30 AM. **–PTI**

Bhaskar Rao quits AAP, joins BJP

In a setback to the Aam Aadmi Party in Karnataka, its prominent face and former Bengaluru police commissioner Bhaskar Rao on Wednesday quit the party and joined the ruling BJP in the state.

Rao had joined the AAP just 11 months ago in New Delhi in the presence of the AAP supremo and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. After joining the BJP in the presence of BJP state chief Nalin Kumar Kateel today, the retired IPS officer said only BJP can strengthen India and bring back the lost glory. "We all should join hands to strengthen Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is striving to make 'Ek Bharat, Samruddh Bharat' (One India, Prosperous India). I am also impressed by the prominence given to youth and women in the BJP," Rao told reporters here. He also said he will seek the guidance of Kateel, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, former CM B S Yediyurappa, and other senior BJP leaders.

Woman stabbed to death outside her office

Man stabs woman 15 times for refusing his marriage proposal

A man allegedly stabbed a woman to death on Tuesday evening after she refused to marry him over their caste difference, police said.

The victim was identified as Leela Pavithra Neelami, a resident of Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. The accused was identified as Dinakar Banalam, a resident of Srikakulam.

According to the police, Leela was living in Bengaluru and working at a healthcare firm. She was stabbed multiple times by Dinakar Banala after she allegedly spurned his marriage proposal, stating that he is from a different caste and her family wouldn't agree to their nuptials.

"The girl's family was not ready for the wedding as she is from a different caste. With his marriage proposal spurned, the accused stabbed her more than 15 times in front of her office. The incident took place around 7 pm on Tuesday," said DCP, Bheemashankar S Guled.

Police said according to preliminary investigation, Dinakar and Leela fell in love five years ago. However, the latter's family was against their marriage because of the caste difference.

"Dinakar and Leela fell in love five years ago. But Leela's family was opposed to their marriage as Dinakar was from a different caste. Leela informed Dinakar that her family would not agree to their marriage and she would have to abide by their decision. This angered Dinakar who stabbed Leela multiple times outside her office," said the DCP.

CRIME FILES

On receiving the information, the police reached the spot and arrested the accused.

Further investigation is underway.

Denied money, man smashes bakery

A man who was angry because he didn't get a loan of Rs 500, smashed the glass of the bakery and threatened its owner in Annapoorneshwari Nagar Police Station limits. The accused has been identified as Prakash.

Prakash is said to have been a regular visitor to the bakery in Malagala run by Raghunath. According to the police, both were friends. Many times, Prakash borrowed some money from Raghunath and never returned it.

Prakash, who had gone to the bakery on Tuesday night, had asked Raghunath to lend him Rs 500, but he refused to do so. Later, there was a fight between the two.

Prakash took a piece of wood and went to the bakery around 7 am on Wednesday, broke the glass, threatened the owner and ran away. A case related to the incident has been registered and investigation is underway. The police said that action has been taken to arrest the accused.

–BMB and agencies

Want to do something special with RCB: skipper Faf Du Plessis

South African batter Faf du Plessis took over the captaincy of Royal Challengers Bangalore ahead of IPL 2022, and he had a lofty legacy to live up to.

In his first season as RCB captain, Faf displayed exceptional leadership qualities while guiding the team to the IPL playoffs.

While speaking on RCB Podcast Season 2, the second of the 10 episodes, Faf disclosed what drove him to lead the team with a sense of purpose.

"I think as a cricketer, the moment that reaffirmed to me and told me that I belong at this level and I want to be at this level... was (the moment) like, you belong here. So that moment was from where, I was just like, this is what I want to do. Yeah, I became super purpose driven. After that, I became the Proteas, the Heartbeat if I could say that. I lived and breathed everything about Cricket South Africa," said Plessis as quoted by an RCB press release.

"Then now at this next chapter in my life, I found this new purpose and especially now with RCB, as I said you have got something that really lights your desire inside you. Yeah, I want to do something special and then that gives you a new sense of purpose because I do not want to play just for the sake of playing. There is always something that drives me more than just the Rands or whatever," said Faf.

Faf was immense not just as a leader, as he led the RCB batting too from the front. Faf amassed 468 runs from 16 matches with 3 fifties including the highest of 96. In fact, Faf was seventh among the leading run-scorers of the IPL 2022.

However, Faf had to do that proverbial learning and unlearning while maturing into the role of a captain. For that, Faf credited the days he spent observing proven leaders such as former SA captain Graeme Smith and MS Dhoni and Stephen Fleming during his stint with the Chennai Super Kings.

"I always had this leadership perspective of learning from great leaders, it (leadership) was always something that I was fascinated about. When I initially came into the South African team, Graeme Smith was the captain. I was like, Wow, this guy has got an amazing presence when he speaks -- like this big, blinding roar at you, and he just dominated the room while speaking. So I was like, that is a leader, right?" he said. **ANI**

Con too far...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

'genuine'. Later, I transferred the money to an account that was given; when I inquired again about the offer letter, they had blocked me; the phone number which I was provided was also not reachable," she said.

Central Crime Branch joint commissioner Sharanappa said there has been an increase in cases of 'education fraud, OTP fraud and job fraud' in the city.

"In these cases, we have noticed, the accused tries to win the trust of the victim and make them initiate payment. In job frauds, they ask you to make advance payment but then there is no company that will ask you to make the payment in advance. We have been doing a lot of awareness campaigns; earlier we had only one cyber crime police station, but now for each division we have one CEN police station," he told BM.

Sharanappa added that the biggest challenge faced by the police in this regard is how to retrieve the money that was transferred. "If victims call us immediately after they have transferred the money, we will check the account to which the money was transferred; we will contact the bank to freeze the account. But if the accused manages to withdraw the money before the complaint is filed, it becomes difficult to get the money back," he added.

Mirza Faizan Asad, cyber security expert, said cyber criminals have become experts in creating fake websites and offer letters that look genuine.

"One of the reasons why cases are rising is due to the rate of unemployment; the other reason is that all the website links and documents provided by the accused look genuine, so the victim trusts them. People need to be vigilant about checking the authenticity of the company; visit the consultancy firm concerned and check for reviews before doing anything," he said. *(*name changed)*

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sutharsanan Chockkalingam S/O Chockalingam R/o Flat 204, Vikyath Pride, 5th Cross Alfa Garden, Kodigehalli Road, KR Puram, Bangalore 560036 have changed my name as SUTHARSANAN for all the purposes vide affidavit dated 28.02.2023 sworn before Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

I, Karthik J S R/o 101, Skanda Sai Nilaya, 3rd Cross, Silver Oak Layout, J P Nagar 7th Phase Bengaluru 560078 have changed my minor daughter's name from Srividya Karthik Jonnakadla to Srividya Karthik for all purposes.

I Fathima Kausar Mohammed Ismail Shabandri W/O, Shabandri Mohamed Ismail R/o No. 41/1-1, 1st Floor, Flat No. 201, Netaji Road, Fraser Town, Bengaluru - 560005 have changed my name to Fathima Kausar for all purposes.

I, Abhishek Kumar Mahendra Kumar R/a #F1-201, SNN Raj Greenbay, Electronic City phase 2, Bangalore 560100. I have changed my name to Abhishek Kumar. Vide affid avit dated 01-03-23 sworn before notary B Seshagiri B'lore.

I, HALEHALLI NARAYANA POOJARY HARISHA, S/o Late HALEHALLI NARAYANA POOJAR GOPAL, #14, Flat No.4, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, 7th Block, Syndicate Bank colony, B.S.K 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560085 have changed my name to HALEHALLI NARAYANA POOJAR HARISH (H N HARISH) for all future purposes.

I Manoj Joseph Alleluia R/o OC-302, Shapoorji Pallonji PARK WEST, Ward No.1/1 Hosakere Road, Near ETA MALL Binnypete, Bangalore North Karnataka -560023 have my father's name wrongly updated in my passport. It currently has my father's name as "Alleluia" where his name is "Manuel Pancross Alleluia".

I, Rita Praveen Aranha, W/o Mr. Praveen Anil Aranha, Born on 19-02-1984, Residing at F305, Nandi Citadel, Via Doddakammanhalli, Off Bannerghatta Road, Chandras hekarapura, Bangalore 560076. have changed my name to Rita Lobo, vide affidavit dated 21-02-2023 at Bangalore.

I, PRERNA AGARWAL, W/o AYUSH KEDIA, resident at Flat No. 255, 4th Floor, B Block Prestige Silver Sun, Devarabisanahalli, Bengaluru 560103 have changed my name as PRERNA SANJAY AGARWAL vide affidavit dated 28.02.2023 sworn before notary Y.V. Shankar, Bengaluru.

I Meghaben Ashwinkumar Patel W/O, Ketulkumar Prahladbhai Patel R/o A303, Gr Sankalpa, Choodasandra Village Road, Central Jail Road, Hosa Road, Bengaluru 560099 have changed my name to Megha Ketulkumar Patel

I, Karthik J S R/o 101, Skanda Sai Nilaya, 3rd Cross Silver Oak Layout, J P Nagar 7th Ph Bengaluru, 560078 have changed my minor daughter's name from Shraddha Karthik Jonnakadla to Shraddha Karthik for all purposes.

I, SAHIR AHMED KHAN, R/at No.85, 3rd Cross Masjid Al Hasan Road, Bengaluru-560032, have changed my name to SAHIR AHMED KHAN ASIF, vide affidavit dt:01.03.2023 before Notary K.V. Mani, Bengaluru.

I, Sangita Devi Goutham Chand chopra W/o Goutham Chand chopra R/o No.8 1st Floor N R Plaza A S Char Street Cross Mamulpet B'lore-560053 have changed my name to Sangita Devi for all purposes.

I Pushpa M.P W/O, Vikram Singh R/o No 9/1, Ground Floor, Munishammapa Layout, Bank Colony, Thindlu, Bangalore 560097, have changed my name to Pushpa Kunwar for all purposes

I, Gowtham Chand Chopra S/o Kheem Chand Chopra R/o No.8 1st Floor, N R Plaza, A S Char Street Cross Mamulpet B'lore-560053 have changed my name to Goutham Chand Chopra for all purposes.

I Mohamad Ismail Shabandri S/O, Faqui Ahmad Shabandri R/o No. 41/1-1, 1st Floor, Flat No. 201, Netaji Road, Fraser Town, Bengaluru - 560005 have changed my name to Mohammed Ismail Shabandri

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Does it spark joy?

Joy can help us be better at work – here's how to find it

"Choose a job you love, and you'll never work a day in your life." Attributed without much evidence to Confucius, this quote has been featured on email signatures of workaholics for years.

Recent research has found "passion" is becoming a regular part of job listings. At the same time, younger workers (millennials and Gen Z) have been stereotyped for protecting their work-life balance, with critics saying they are not interested in working hard and have a sense of entitlement about work.

The rise of quiet quitting and calls for better work-life balance suggest that falling in love with work and following our passions is unattainable, or at least out of fashion. But research shows that finding joy at work doesn't have to come at the expense of doing good work. In fact, it can even help.

Positive emotions, such as joy, happiness and pride, happen when we accomplish something that brings us closer to a goal. This can be a work achievement (finishing a project), or a social experience with a colleague. These emotions can improve employee wellbeing and job performance, keep us motivated and engaged and lead to better work quality.

They can also enhance teamwork, trust and a sense of belonging. This is especially true when we have fun in the workplace.

Psychologist Barbara Fredrickson, an expert in positive emotions, suggests that experiencing fun and joy at work can broaden our horizons. When we are enjoying ourselves, we are willing to try new things, engage in different kinds of behaviour, and as a result, improve our abilities over time.

Negative emotions can focus our minds and narrow our attention on a particular issue, evident when we are anxious about solving a problem or overcoming an obstacle. But positive emotions can act as a buffer against the many negative experiences that we are inevitably exposed to at work. They can relieve stress, diffuse tension in difficult group situations, and reduce burnout.

> **Positive emotions can act as a buffer against the many negative experiences that we are inevitably exposed to at work**

Finding your flow

The pandemic has changed our experiences and expectations of work. Today, many office workers view some degree of flexibility – and the resulting improvements in work-life balance – as a standard job requirement. The "great resignation" suggests that some people would rather quit than lose flexibility and autonomy in their working arrangements.

My research found that people enjoy their work more when they are in a hybrid working environment, spending at least part of their week working from home. Of course, some were happy to be away from toxic office cultures or micromanaging supervisors, but crucially, they had a heightened sense of mastery over their work.

Many of us have experienced how much easier it is to accomplish things and stay motivated when we are deeply engaged and focused on a task. This phenomenon is called "flow", and it can be associated with feelings of joy, creativity and deep focus. For some people, it might be easier to find a flow state when they are working from home. For others, home might be a place of more distraction, and they might prefer to go into the office or work from a cafe.

Fun and joy can also be found in interactions with coworkers. Of course, this is more difficult to find when you are working in your own home. In survey data I collected during the pandemic, people said that they found their sense of belonging and connection with colleagues at work decreased.

The downside of joy

Despite the evidence in favour of more joy and positive emotions at work, some organisations and managers remain sceptical. In some fields, there may be concerns that joy and fun can be a health and safety risk, or make it difficult to uphold professionalism.

And just as fun at work can enhance one's sense of belonging to the organisation, it can also make some feel excluded and alienated, if they cannot or don't wish to participate in social activities or camaraderie.

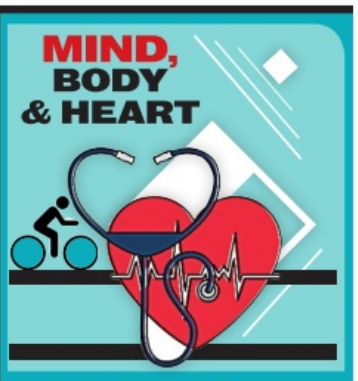
There also seems to be a deeper running concern. For decades, company leaders and managers have strived to enhance productivity, make work more effective and cut costs. They might view people having fun at work as not taking the job seriously or not wanting to work hard.

This is very much in line with traditional thinking of the early days of management writers. Frederick Winslow Taylor, a pioneer of management consulting, saw emotions as a distraction from the main goal of work, which was to get the job done as efficiently as possible.

The puzzle of autonomy and flexibility and home, with belonging and socialisation with colleagues, is one that will likely take more experimentation with hybrid working to solve. Some companies have ordered workers to return to the office, but the magic doesn't just happen by putting people in the same place. This is particularly the case when there are so many advantages to working from home.

Instead of worrying that joy and fun at work will distract people, managers should know that feelings of belonging and other positive emotions can also make people more creative and motivated. And if you're struggling at work, try talking to a colleague – even a short interaction could remind you that you're part of a team, and that joy is possible.

(By Tina Kiefer, University of Warwick, The Conversation)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a 50-year-old woman and have been made redundant recently.
My mum and I have always been very close, but sadly we've drifted apart over the past few months. As I'm not working, I can't live the same kind of life as I did before - I can't buy things the way I used to or go out much as I simply can't afford it.
On the other hand, amy brother also got made redundant around the same time I did and managed to pick up another job within a week. I'm always being compared to him, and have no one to talk to about it.
Sadly, my dad died a couple of years ago and I don't have many close friends to confide in either. I feel I'm losing the connection with my mum. What do I do?

COLEEN SAYS

You might be overthinking the relationship with your mum because you're feeling bad about everything else.
Maybe you're extra sensitive to the things she says and perhaps she's not very tactful.
I think you should sit down with your mum and tell her how you're feeling – you're a bit low, you're doing your best to cope, but things aren't great.
I bet if you said you feel she has more respect for your brother because he found a job, she'd tell you that wasn't true at all.
At the age your mum is, she probably doesn't realise how difficult things are on the job front for people.
But here's the thing, your relationship with your mum doesn't rely on having a job or money to buy her things and take her out. The connection comes from just being together and talking. You can do things that don't involve spending money, like having a cup of tea together, or going on a walk.
When you're feeling low, one of the most important things is to keep a connection with others.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

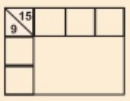
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

A kid is 3/4 the tall of his brother. Together they reach 140 cm. How tall are they?

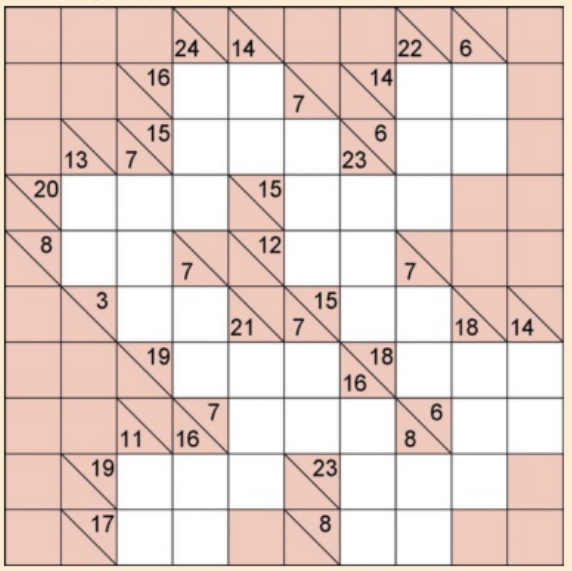
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

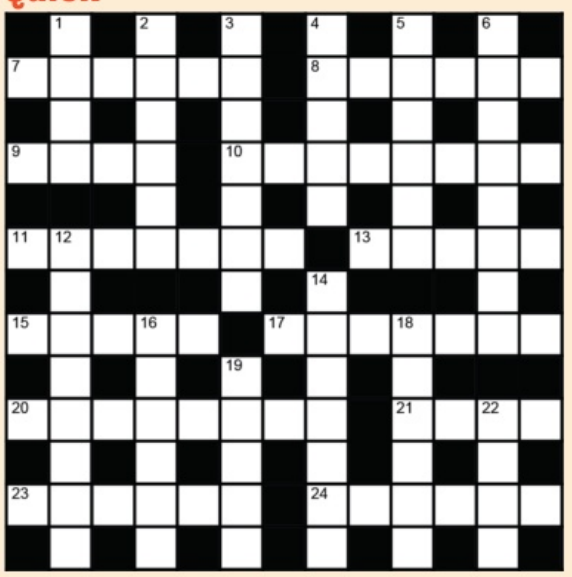
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 More ungainly to look at (6)
8 Immense star system (6)
9 Indian goddess or Indian maiden (4)
10 Recoiled (8)
11 Using a shovel (7)
13 Karnataka town whose name is associated with South Indian food (5)
15 Prop or stretcher (5)
17 Set right or atone for (7)
20 Woollen garments (8)
21 Bulk, majority (4)
23 Thick greasy mud? (6)
24 Minor divisions of a play? (6)

DOWN

1 Hideous giant (4)
2 Inner covering (6)
3 Making beer (7)
4 A semiprecious stone–an opening for the cryptic minded? (5)
5 Dodged or avoided (6)
6 Short extracts from books, films, etc. (8)
12 In a fascinated or engrossed manner (8)
14 Repeat a song (7)
16 Cluttered (6)
18 Struck with a great force (6)
19 Measuring device (5)
22 Litigated (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: M EQUALS G

AG'F SWNBG EPSG ZNB SXL MNAUM GN YN EAGP GPL FP-NXG GAHL ZNB PSCL JLTG NU GPAF LSXGP

Linemaro

You cook better than my mom. But don't ever tell her I told you that

Mindchow

The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings

Joke of the day

You can say anything to your dog and it will give you a look that says, "My god, you are right. I would have never thought of that!"

Loop

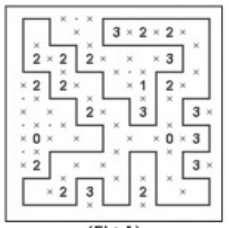
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

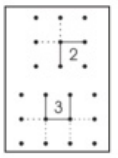
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

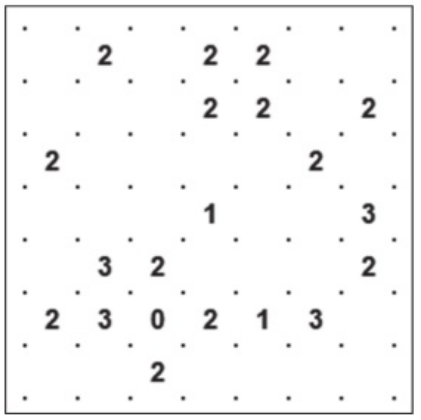
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



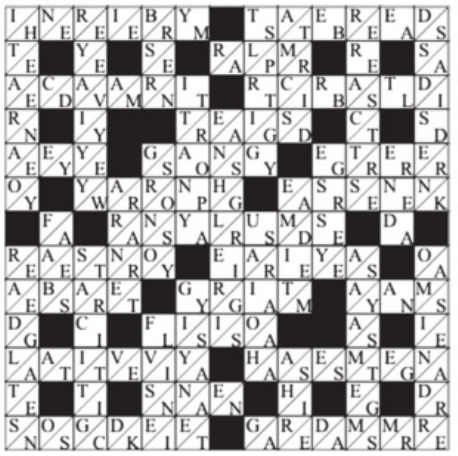
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5 M
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 CU Mrs; 6 As Lao; 7 Ural I; 8 Gam an; 9 Reply

DOWN

1 Lumps; 2 Lorca; 3 Ray in; 4 Age us; 5 Alarm

Mensapuzzle

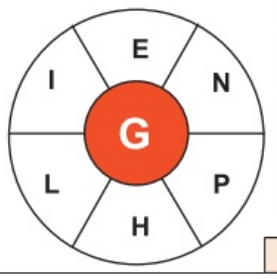
What number should replace the question mark?

3925 : 277

4697 : 2416

6257 : ?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		6	8			7		
	1	9	2				5	
			1	4		8		2
	9		6			1		
		7			4		3	
9		8		1	7			
	5				9	4	2	
		3			8	9		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 19
2 5 8 8

Medium = 54
1 3 7 8

Hard = 26
1 8 9 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

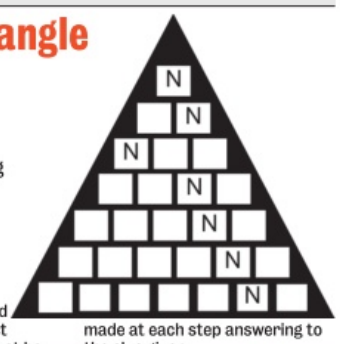
Differences: 1. Ear is larger. 2. Button is added. 3. Apron is longer. 4. Broom is narrower. 5. Cash register is missing. 6. Awning is not as wide.

Riddler

What connects nilgiri, hojicha and kukicha?

Alpha triangle

1 One of the poles
2 Not out
3 Nothing
4 Cod fish
5 Adhere
6 Fortifying; spiking
7 Wanting, absent



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

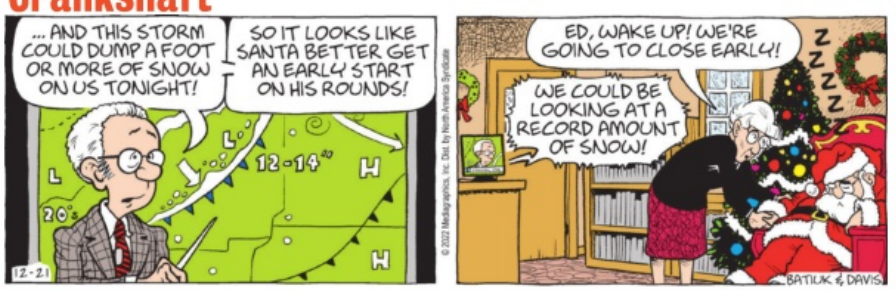
Bizarrotrip

I can't believe they're still doing cartoons about being stranded on a desert crouton.
Wayno & Piraro
BIZARRO.COM
©2022 BIZARRO STUDIOS
11-30-22

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft


... AND THIS STORM COULD DUMP A FOOT OR MORE OF SNOW ON US TONIGHT!
SO IT LOOKS LIKE SANTA BETTER GET AN EARLY START ON HIS ROUNDS!
12-14°
20s
12-21
ED, WAKE UP! WE'RE GOING TO CLOSE EARLY!
WE COULD BE LOOKING AT A RECORD AMOUNT OF SNOW!
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. Your destiny is likely to be with you. You may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay off in terms of success. Your colleagues may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related trips. Some good news may come from your sibling.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be busy with family matters. You may take some important decisions on the domestic front. You should avoid making arguments over personal life matters. Your arrogance may affect domestic harmony. By late evening, things may be under control. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in business.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today messy situations are under control. You may feel peace in your mind. You may be able to strike a proper balance between your expenditure and earnings, which may boost your financial health. You are advised to avoid travelling too much or overworking. It may affect your health. Students can start planning for their future. Lovebirds may enjoy happy moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, until evening, you may enjoy your work and domestic life. You may get back some money that was stuck. From late evening, you may feel dull. Some unknown fear can make you upset. You may get stressed, which may affect sound sleep. You are advised to meditate.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be blessed by the moon. Your disappointment may now convert into happiness. You may be more focused on your targets. You are likely to use your creativity to make some changes in your office or house. You may also find your love around you. Lovebirds are advised to avoid fantasy in their relationships. Students should avoid speculation in their studies.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be busy at work. Your communication skills may help you get a big order, which may grow your business. You are likely to meet some influential person who will help you grow your business. Your family may support you to make a difficult decision at work. You are advised to control your tongue in love matters. Lovebirds are advised to control straightforwardness.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may have a full support of your parents. You may get success at work, especially if it is related to government projects. Your terms with management are likely to improve, which may benefit your business or work. You may plan for an overseas work-related trip. You may have some infection. You are advised to drink plenty of water and use lemon in your food.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may be a victim of some unknown fear. Some sort of nega- tivity may reflect into your thoughts. Your impatient nature and arrogance may push you back from taking difficult decisions at work. You are likely to seek blessings from your elders, which may help you come out of a messy situation. You are advised to avoid investments in dead assets.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may start your day with good feelings. you may have patience, which may reflect into your way of working. You may enjoy it at work. You may be optimistic in terms of gains. You may improve your emotional bonding with your spouse. This may increase family harmony. Jobseekers may hear good news.

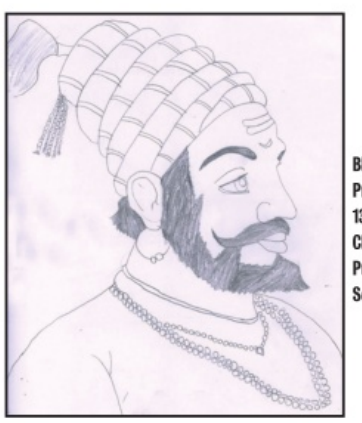
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today is a good day at work. You may perform well. You may lead your team efficiently. Your focus towards work may be appreciated by your boss. You may also get promotions in terms of rewards. Jobseekers may get a new job. Singles are likely to fall in love with someone at work. Architects, artists, and traders will do well.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is important for your domestic life. You may be busy with your kids. You may hear some good news in terms of their education. You may buy some creative items for your home or office to maintain your social status. You are advised to proceed with caution. Those related to military, management, electronics, and medicine, will do well.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may be dissatisfied. People around you may not cooperate with you. You are advised to keep patience. You are also advised to read documents carefully before signing any contracts. Making new investments in useless assets may create a bottleneck for you. Students are advised to read their subjects with patience.

KIDZONE

Janet Ruth Prabhudass J, 6 years, Christ The King School



Bhanu Prasad DS, 13 years, Chethan Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Let brother's height=x
Kid's height=3/4 of x=3/4x
Total height=x+3/4 x
By the condition:
(1+3/4)x=140
7/4 x=140
» x=140*4/7
x=20*4
x=80 so,
Brother's height=80 cm
=3/4(80)
=60 cm

BULL'S EYE
glen, HELPING, hinge, ling, neigh, nigh, ping

FAST FIVE

S	C	R	U	M
L	O	A	S	A
U	R	I	A	L
M	A	N	G	A
P	L	Y	E	R

STRIKE OUT

H	E	R	E	B	Y	S	A	B	R	E	S			
E		E		R	P	M		E		A				
A	D	V	A	N	I		R	I	B	A	L	D		
N		I		R	A	I	D		C		D			
E	Y	E		S	O	N	G		E	T	R	E		
Y		W	R	O	N	G		E	S	S	E	N		
	F		A	S	Y	L	U	M	S		D			
E	A	T	N	O		E	R	I	E	S		A		
A	B	A	T		G	R	I	T		Y	A	M		
G		C	L	I	S	A		S			E			
L	A	T	V	I	A		H	A	S	T	E	N		
E		I		N	N	E		I		E		D		
S	O	C	K	E	T		G	R	A	M	M	E		

QUICK

O	L	B		A		E		E						
U	G	L	I	E	R		G	A	L	A	X	Y		
R		N		E		A		U		C				
D	E	V	I		W	I	T	H	D	R	E	W		
		N		I		E		E		R				
S	T	R	U	T		R	E	D	E	S	S			
N		G		R				T						
D	I	G	G	I	N	G		U	D	I	P	I		
		N												
S	T	R	U	T		R	E	D	E	S	S			
E		N	M		P		A							
K	N	I	T	W	E	A	R		M	A	S	S		
		T		I		T				U				
L	A	T	V	I	A		H	A	S	T	E	N		
G		C	L	I	S	A		S			E			
A	B	A	T		G	R	I	T		Y	A	M		
E	A	T	N	O		E	R	I	E	S		A		
	F		A	S	Y	L	U	M	S		D			
Y		W	R	O	N	G		E	S	S	E	N		
E	Y	E		S	O	N	G		E	T	R	E		
N		I		R	A	I	D		C		D			
A	D	V	A	N	I		R	I	B	A	L	D		
E		E		R	P	M		E		A				
S	O	C	K	E	T		G	R	A	M	M	E		

MENSA PUZZLE
1212: 6 × 2 = 12, 5 + 7 = 12. Similarly 4 × 6 = 24 and 9 + 7 = 16 (2416)

RIDDLER
They are all types of tea.

QUOTE UNCODE
It's about what YOU are going to do with the short time you have left on this earth

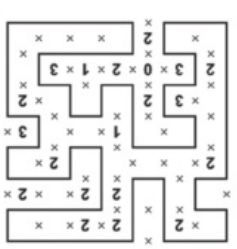
SUDOKU

2	4	6	8	9	5	7	1	3
8	1	9	2	7	3	6	5	4
3	7	5	1	4	6	8	9	2
5	9	4	6	3	2	1	8	7
6	3	2	7	8	1	5	4	9
1	8	7	9	5	4	2	3	6
9	2	8	4	1	7	3	6	5
7	5	1	3	6	9	4	2	8
4	6	3	5	2	8	9	7	1

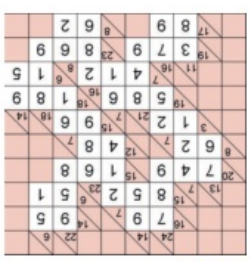
ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, In, Nil, Ling, Cling, Lacing, Lacking.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 x 8 + 8 – 5 = 19
Medium
7 x 8 – 3 + 1 = 54
Hard
8 – 5 x 9 – 1 = 26

LOOP



KAKURO



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More on the slap? Chris Rock's live Netflix special will air just a week before the Oscars, raising expectations that the comedian will address the moment he was slapped by Will Smith last year

Star rise

Sara reveals how she deals with some of her films not doing well

Sara Ali Khan marked a promising entry in Bollywood with 'Kedarnath' and 'Simmba' in 2018. Saif Ali Khan and Amrita Singh's daughter has earned a lot of popularity with her work and social media game. However, her five-year-long journey till now has also been punctuated with a few flops like 'Love Aaj Kal' and 'Atrangi Re'.

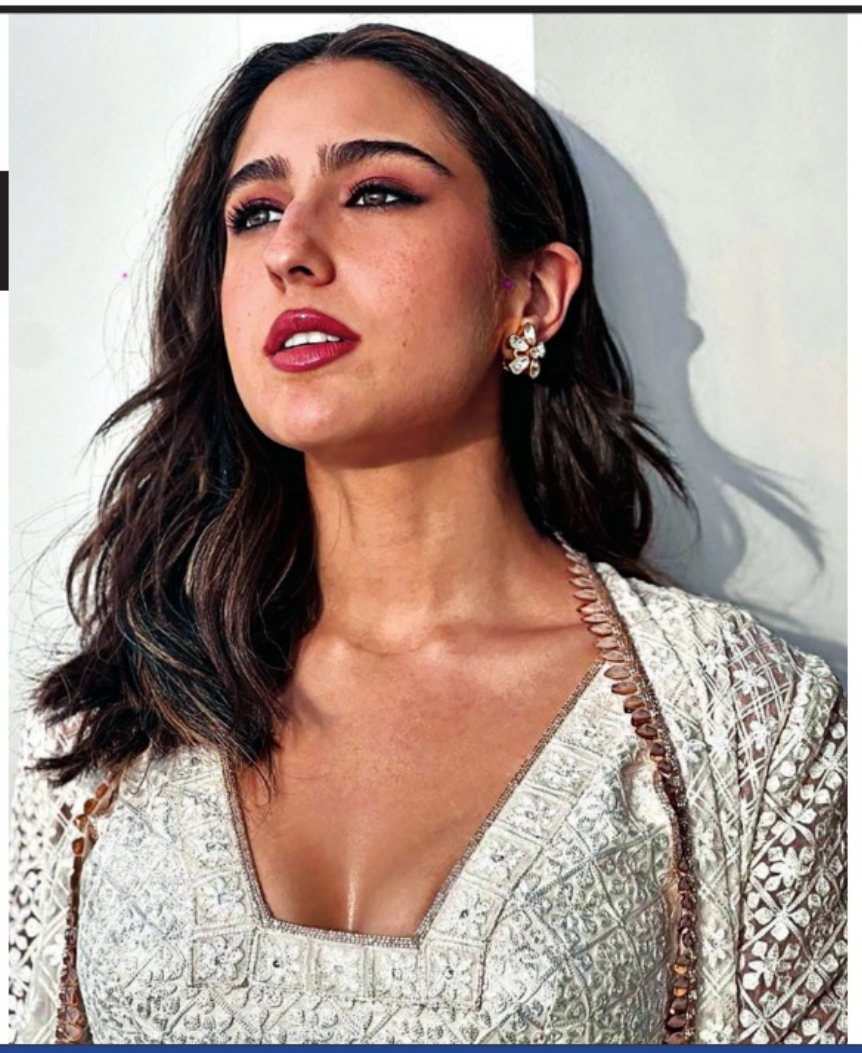
> "It's essential to fall down to get up every time. That is how I deal with setbacks

Not the one to give up so easily, Sara recently opened up about learning from the failures in her career. Speaking about making mistakes, the actress told Eastern Eye that she has done films which have not been loved by the audience and that it is her age to make mistakes. Taking it in her stride, Sara expressed that it was important to fall down to get up every time and that she has dealt with her own set of setbacks.

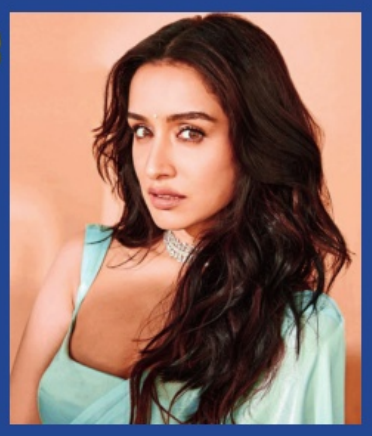
Looking ahead, Sara has a promising line up of films in her kitty. She has Laxman Utekar's next untitled film, co-starring Vicky Kaushal and 'Gaslight' alongside Vikrant Massey'.

Sara Ali Khan has also signed up to play the lead in patriotic drama 'Ae Watan Mere Watan'. She plays the role of a freedom fighter in this film, which will be released directly on OTT. Sara is also reportedly a part of Homi Adajania's next, titled 'Murder Mubarak'.

ETimes



Her singing voice



Bollywood actress Shraddha Kapoor recounted recording the track 'Teri Galliyan' from the 2014 film 'Ek Villain' and expressed gratitude to Mohit Suri for letting her sing the song.

Sharing her experience, she said: "Before recording the song, when we were shooting 'Aashiqui 2', I requested Mohit Suri to allow me to sing one song in the film. But he was looking for a great voice to sing for the film." "So, one day during the filming of 'Ek Villian,' Mohit Suri called me and asked where I was going to be the next day, to which I replied, 'I will be at home only'. He immediately said, 'come to the studio let's record the song 'Teri Galliyan'."

Shraddha shared further that initially, she was nervous as she was not so prepared but Mohit trusted her and she said that this his trust became her motivation. "I was terrified as I was not prepared. There was a scene in 'Aashiqui 2' where Arohi says, 'Muhjse Nahi Hoga' before singing, and this was replicated in my real life because I was in the studio when Mohit sir arrived, and I was unable to record it. But this is so special to me; had this moment not occurred in my life, I would never have sung this song.""I believe that whoever believes in you and your abilities, and the strength we gain from them, is the most beautiful thing in life, and I am grateful to Mohit Suri for this chance," she added.

—ETimes

Nasty fight scene

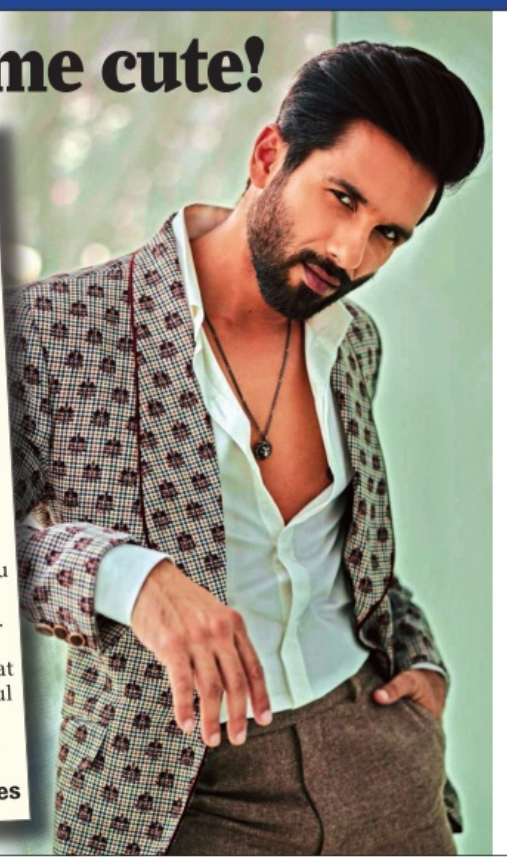
Nora Fatehi recently recalled an ugly fight she had with her co-star on the sets of her debut film, 'Roar: Tigers of the Sunderbans' in Bangladesh.

Sharing details about the fight, Nora revealed that they were shooting in the jungle for the movie when one of her co-stars started misbehaving with her. Following which, she slapped him. However, he slapped her back and then they got into an ugly fight.

Nora shared this incident on Kapil Sharma's comedy chat show while she was promoting her film, 'An Action Hero'. The film also starred Ayushmann Khurrana and Jaideep Ahlawat.

—ETimes

Don't call me cute!



Actor Shahid Kapoor is currently basking in the success of his maiden web show Farzi. The actor, who is mostly known for his boy next door roles, has over a period of time, worked in movies across many genres.

The actor, who started his career as a model, appearing in the music video Aankhon Mein Tera Hi Chehra by the band Aryans has often been referred to as chocolate boy and cute, a word that the actor recently admitted he hates. In an interaction with Pinkvilla, the 42-year-old said, "I always hate it when people called me cute. I hate that word, Vanilla. You know, I used to hate it when people say 'Oh you are cute'. I hate it. I was like 'Why would you say that to anybody.' I never liked that word. I have learned to be graceful and accept it now, that people throw it at me. But I just felt that it is very limiting."

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Good cause

The team of Kadala Theerada Bhargava has decided to use the money given by former deputy mayor Mohan Raju to buy the first ticket for the education of a bright student from an economically backward family.

"We want to identify a bright student before the commencement of next academic year. The money will be paid to the school where the student is studying. Our objective is to bear the school fees from Class 6 to SSLC. If it is more than Rs 2 lakh, I am ready to bear the extra amount and if it is less than Rs 2 lakh, the remaining amount will be given to another bright student," said Patel Varun Raju, who plays one of the leads apart and has bankrolled the movie.

The film is likely to be released at more multiplexes than at single screen theaters.

Of love and friendship

Vikram Suri is busy making arrangements to release his second Kannada movie Chowkabara that is scheduled for release on March 10. The movie is based on Mani R Rao's novel, Bhavana. The movie is about friendship, love and relationship.

"My wife Nimitha Rao plays the female lead apart from bankrolling it under the Navi Nirmithi banner. I am only directing the film. We both have acted in tele serials. Nimitha made her debut in Sandalwood with Chitramandiradalli in 2013. Chowkabara is her second movie," said Vikram Suri.

According to the director, the novel – Bhavana – was written during the 90s and the movie Chowkabara showcases the friendship, love and relationship among the youth. "Chowkabara is my second movie. My debut movie is Yelayaru Naavu Geleyaru that fetched me the Karnataka State Award. Chowkabara has all the ingredients needed to entertain the audiences and also convey a message to society on relationships," said the director.

Chowkabara is also likely to be screened abroad.